

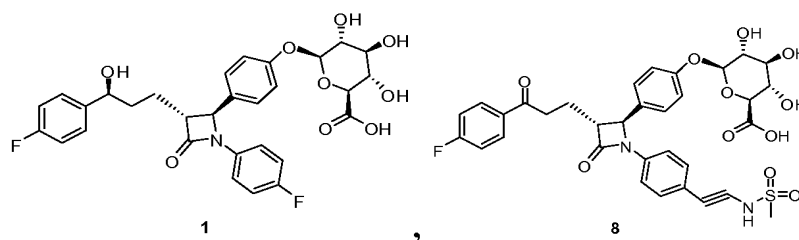
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

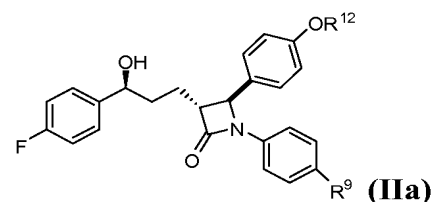
Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method for identifying a ligand of NPC1L1 comprising:

(a) contacting human NPC1L1 with a candidate compound and a detectably labeled substituted 2-azetidinone glucuronide compound selected from the group consisting of compound 1, ~~compound 2~~, compound 8 ~~and a compound of Formula IIa~~,



and a compound of Formula IIa



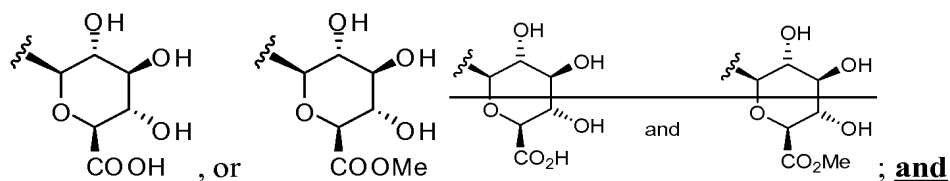
wherein,

(i) R⁹ is **selected from the group consisting of** ~~-C≡C-CH₂-NR¹⁰R¹¹~~ wherein R¹¹ is selected from the group consisting of -H, -C₁₋₃alkyl, -C(O)-C₁₋₃alkyl, -C(O)-NR¹⁰R¹⁰, -SO₂-C₁₋₃alkyl and -SO₂-phenyl; **[[or]] -C≡C-C(O)NR¹⁰-SO₂-C₁₋₃alkyl; -C≡C-C(O)NR¹⁰-SO₂-phenyl; -(CH₂)₃-NR¹⁰-SO₂-C₁₋₃alkyl; and -(CH₂)₃-NR¹⁰-SO₂-phenyl;**

(ii) ~~R⁹ is selected from the group consisting of -C≡C-CH₂-NR¹⁰R¹¹;~~
~~-C≡C-C(O)NR¹⁰R¹¹;~~ ~~-(CH₂)₃-NR¹⁰-SO₂-C₁₋₃alkyl and -(CH₂)₃-NR¹⁰-SO₂-phenyl;~~ wherein R¹¹ is selected from ~~H, C₁₋₃alkyl, C(O)-C₁₋₃alkyl, C(O)-NR¹⁰R¹⁰, SO₂-C₁₋₃alkyl and SO₂-phenyl;~~

R¹⁰ is independently selected at each occurrence from -H and -C₁₋₃alkyl; and

R¹² is selected from



(b) measuring the amount of detectably labeled substituted 2-azetidinone glucuronide compound that is bound to NPC1L1, and determining whether said candidate compound binds to human NPC1L1;

wherein binding of said candidate compound to human NPC1L1 ~~modulates~~ **decreases** binding of said detectably labeled substituted 2-azetidinone glucuronide to human NPC1L1, ~~and wherein said modulation~~ **and** indicates that the candidate compound is a ligand ~~that binds to~~ **of** human NPC1L1.

2-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the substituted 2-azetidinone-glucuronide comprises a detectable label from the group consisting of ³H, ³⁵S and ¹²⁵I.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the ~~detectable label is~~ ³⁵S substituted 2-azetidinone-glucuronide is a compound of Formula IIa.

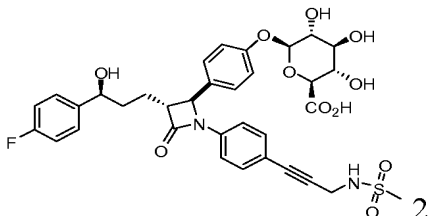
9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the substituted 2-azetidinone-glucuronide is a compound of Formula IIa, wherein R⁹ is selected from the group consisting of -C≡C-CH₂-NR¹⁰R¹¹, -C≡C-C(O)NR¹⁰R¹¹, -(CH₂)₃-NR¹⁰-SO₂-C₁₋₃alkyl and -(CH₂)₃-NR¹⁰-SO₂-phenyl, and R¹¹ is selected from -SO₂-C₁₋₃alkyl and -SO₂-phenyl.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the substituted 2-azetidinone-glucuronide of Formula IIa is labeled with ³⁵S.

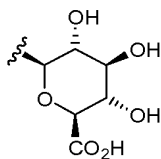
11-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein R⁹ is -C≡C-CH₂-NR¹⁰R¹¹.

22. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1 wherein the detectably labeled substituted 2-azetidinone glucuronide is ^{35}S -labeled compound 2



23. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1 wherein R^{12} is



24. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 1 wherein the detectably labeled substituted 2-azetidinone glucuronide is selected from the group consisting of compound 1, ~~compound 7~~ and compound 8.

25. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 24 wherein the detectably labeled substituted 2-azetidinone glucuronide comprises a detectable label selected from the group consisting of ^3H and ^{125}I .